

# PugetSoundPartnership

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## SCIENCE PANEL CONFERENCE CALL MEETING SUMMARY

Date: Friday, August 15, 2008

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### **Science Panel Members On Call:**

Joel Baker  
Robert “Bob” Johnston  
Jan Newton  
Frank Shipley  
Usha Varanasi

### **Staff on Call:**

Scott Redman  
Tammy Owings  
Cullen Stephenson

### **Others on Call:**

Karen Dinicola  
Heather Trim

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Call opened at 11:00 a.m. by Science Panel Chair Joel Baker. Joel reviewed the agenda for the conference call.

During this call the Science Panel discussed three items:

- Biennial Science Work Plan
- Monitoring Program
- Initial Strategic Priorities for Puget Sound

### **Biennial Science Work Plan:**

Joel Baker reviewed the latest version of the Biennial Science Work Plan. Several comments had recently come in from Panel members that had not been integrated into this document yet.

The Panel discussed next steps for this document and what the Panel is expecting this document to cover. The Work Plan needs to be coordinated with the Strategic Science Plan.

The Science Panel wants to make sure the projects proposed are connected to the Action Agenda and that each project has enough information, including estimated budget, to become a base for a Request for Proposal (RFP). The process the Panel will use for requesting an RFP will need to be written and included in the Work Plan also.

Any additional comments need to be provided to Scott Redman by the end of Monday, August 18. He will then compile comments and include some options for implementation. This next draft version will be provided to the Science Panel members next week.

**Monitoring Program:**

Scott reviewed the Monitoring Program briefing sheet he provided the Science Panel members just before this call.

He explained there will be a subcommittee meeting to further refine this document at 1:00 p.m. today and that Joel and Scott have a meeting on this issue with David Dicks next Monday.

Jan Newton is concerned with the lack of Science Panel input on this proposal before an important meeting with David Dicks. Joel explained that the meeting is to regroup after the last Science Panel meeting to address Bill Wilkerson and Bill Ruckelshaus' concerns with the 2010 timeline presented by Steve Ralph. This is not the final direction on monitoring but just a way to get input from the director. The Science Panel will continue to refine and work through the details of the Monitoring Program.

Science Panel members are also concerned with the 2010 timeline. Panel members wanted to know what the output from the meeting with David Dicks is intended to be, a major decision on the direction to take or just a touch point. If the outcome is supposed to be a major decision on direction the Science Panel would like more time and input on the process before Joel and Scott meet with David. It was explained that since David was unable to attend the last Science Panel meeting and he heard about the Leadership Council members concerned, he wanted an update on how the Science Panel plans to proceed from Joel and Scott. Panel members were comfortable with this meeting taking place.

Scott reviewed the process for Science Panel members to provide input on this document.

- August 15 review during Conference Call
- August 15, 1:00 p.m. subcommittee Conference Call meeting
- Monday, August 18, Scott and Joel meeting with David Dicks. At this meeting they will present outline to David explaining that the Science Panel has not had an opportunity to provide input yet

- Add this topic to the September 12 Science Panel Conference Call for additional discussion

Scott needs to get direction from the Panel on what staff can move forward with and what needs additional Panel approval.

Joel reviewed what he believed the Panel reached agreement on at the August 6 & 7 Science Panel meeting:

- Endorse existing monitoring programs,
- Existing monitoring programs need to be expanded,
- Monitoring is not being done in a comprehensive or systematic manner currently,
- Need to start collecting baseline information, and
- Need to start monitoring at the ecosystem scale.

Joel noted that what the process will be for getting to the next generation of monitoring is a conversation that will take longer than is available at this meeting.

The document the Panel reviewed today was Scott's attempt to provide next steps to coordinate the monitoring effort and keep the process moving along. Today's conversation was very helpful to him. He will adjust the document to reflect today's concerns before meeting with David on Monday.

The Panel needs to continue coordination between the Monitoring Consortium, Monitoring Forum, and the Partnership. Scott would add PSAMP to this list. He reported that there is a PSAMP meeting scheduled for next Thursday, August 21, and he will be presenting information about the Science Panel's progress at that meeting.

#### **Initial Strategic Priorities for Puget Sound:**

Joel reported that the group is running out of time for discussion of this document today. Scott reported that he has only gotten comments back from Tim so far. He asked if other have other changes or if they are comfortable with the document.

Frank noted that the document is not about science, it is focused on management. He would like to have science and adaptive management included. Scott will draft a letter to Martha Neuman from the Science Panel voicing both Frank's concerns and Tim's comments and make sure the legislative guidance will be included. He will send the draft out for Science Panel review and then work with Joel to finalize and send to Martha.

Conference Call adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Next call is scheduled for September 12, 2008, 11:00 a.m.